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September 5, 2014

NWT Labour Force Activity
- August 2014 -

In August 2014, Statistics Canada estimates that 22,200 persons were employed in the Northwest Territories representing an employment rate of 69.8% (Table 1). Nationally, Canada's employment rate was 62.5% last month.

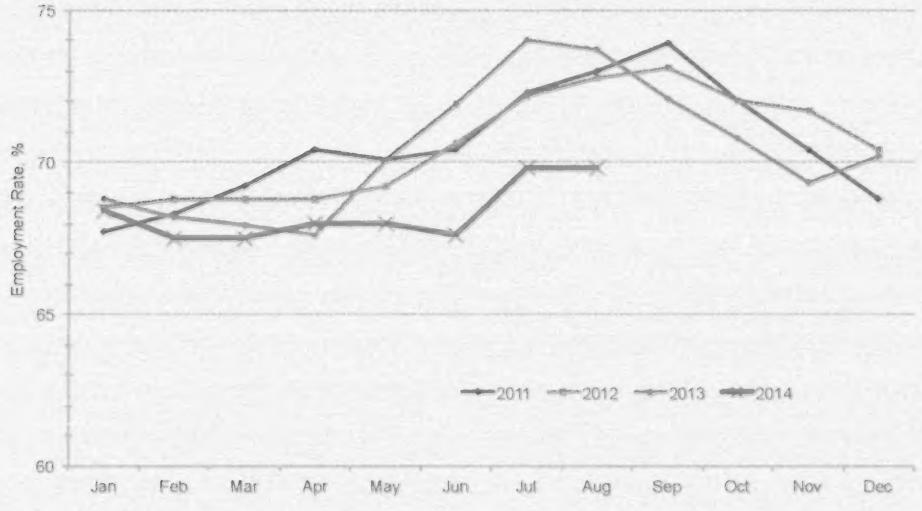
Table 1 Monthly Highlights
Northwest Territories, August 2014

	Aug-14	Jul-14	Aug-13
Population	31,800	31,800	31,900
Labour Force	24,100	24,400	25,500
Employed	22,200	22,200	23,500
Unemployed	1,900	2,200	2,000
Not in Labour Force	7,700	7,400	6,400
Participation (%)	75.8	76.7	79.9
Employment (%)	69.8	69.8	73.7
Unemployment (%)	7.9	9.0	7.8

The NWT employment rate remained the same from the previous month, while the unemployment rate experienced a decline between July 2014 and August 2014.

Prior to May, 2014 employment rates were similar to 2013. However, the seasonal employment in 2014 is lower than it has been in previous years. The employment rate last month was the lowest recorded for August since 2010.

Figure 1 Employment Rates
Northwest Territories, 2011 - 2014



2014-021
ISSN-0827-3545

Web site: http://www.statsnwt.ca

Table 2 shows the August employment levels and rates by key characteristics since 2012. This year's low seasonal employment has affected a broad range of people as all key characteristics have lower employment and employment rates during August 2014 than in previous years.

Table 2 ***Employment Rates by Key Characteristics Northwest Territories***

	Aug-14		Aug-13		Aug-12	
	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)	Employed (Persons)	Employment Rate (%)
Northwest Territories	**22,200**	**69.8**	**23,500**	**73.7**	**23,300**	**72.8**
15-24 Yrs.	3,300	51.6	3,700	56.9	3,700	55.2
25 Yrs. & Over	18,900	74.4	19,800	78.0	19,600	77.5
Males	11,900	72.6	12,200	73.5	12,300	74.5
Females	10,300	66.9	11,300	73.9	11,100	71.6
Aboriginal	8,000	54.1	8,200	57.7	8,500	59.4
Non-Aboriginal	14,200	83.5	15,300	86.4	14,900	84.2
Yellowknife	12,200	79.2	13,500	83.3	12,700	83.0
Other	9,900	60.4	10,000	63.7	10,600	63.5

Over the last 12 months, the number of persons employed decreased by 1,300. The largest losses over this time were for full-time public employees. More recently, employment levels did not change between July and August 2014. However, there was a shift in employment away from the private and into the public sector over this time.

Table 3 ***Monthly and Yearly Change in Employment by Selected Characteristics Northwest Territories, August 2014***

				Jul-14 to Aug-14	Aug-13 to Aug-14
	Aug-14	Jul-14	Aug-13	Change (persons)	
Total Employment	22,200	22,200	23,500	-	(1,300)
Full-time	20,000	20,000	21,500	-	(1,500)
Part-time	2,200	2,200	2,000	-	200
Employees	20,300	20,300	21,500	-	(1,200)
Public	9,600	9,200	10,600	400	(1,000)
Private	10,700	11,100	10,900	(400)	(200)
Self-employment	1,900	1,900	2,000	-	(100)
Goods Producing	4,100	3,900	4,000	200	100
Service Producing	18,100	18,400	19,500	(300)	(1,400)

Table 4 presents historical labour force activity in the Northwest Territories.

Table 4 ***Labour Force Activity***
Northwest Territories

	Population 15 & Over	Labour Force	Employed	Unemployed	Not in the Labour Force	Participation Rate	Unemployment Rate	Employment Rate
Aug-14	31,800	24,100	22,200	1,900	7,700	75.8	7.9	69.8
Jul-14	31,800	24,400	22,200	2,200	7,400	76.7	9.0	69.8
Jun-14	31,800	23,900	21,500	2,300	8,000	75.2	9.6	67.6
May-14	31,900	23,800	21,700	2,200	8,100	74.6	9.2	68.0
Apr-14	31,900	23,800	21,700	2,100	8,200	74.6	8.8	68.0
Mar-14	32,000	23,500	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.4	8.1	67.5
Feb-14	32,000	23,400	21,600	1,900	8,500	73.1	8.1	67.5
Jan-14	32,000	23,800	21,900	1,900	8,200	74.4	8.0	68.4
Dec-13	31,900	24,400	22,400	2,000	7,600	76.5	8.2	70.2
Nov-13	31,900	24,200	22,100	2,100	7,700	75.9	8.7	69.3
Oct-13	31,900	24,600	22,600	2,000	7,300	77.1	8.1	70.8
Sep-13	31,900	25,100	23,000	2,100	6,800	78.7	8.4	72.1
Previous Years:								
Aug-13	31,900	25,500	23,500	2,000	6,400	79.9	7.8	73.7
Aug-12	32,000	25,700	23,300	2,300	6,300	80.3	8.9	72.8
Aug-11	32,200	25,700	23,500	2,200	6,500	79.8	8.6	73.0
Aug-10	32,300	24,300	22,400	1,900	8,000	75.2	7.8	69.3
Aug-09	32,100	23,400	21,700	1,600	8,800	72.9	6.8	67.6
Aug-08	32,100	24,800	23,400	1,400	7,300	77.3	5.6	72.9
Aug-07	31,800	25,300	23,800	1,600	6,500	79.6	6.3	74.8
Aug-06	31,300	24,900	23,600	1,400	6,400	79.6	5.6	75.4
Aug-05	31,300	24,900	23,600	1,400	6,400	79.6	5.6	75.4
Aug-04	31,000	24,600	23,000	1,600	6,400	79.4	6.5	74.2

Information on the territorial labour market is a result of the extension of Statistics Canada's national labour force survey (LFS) to the Northwest Territories. Data presented for the Northwest Territories is based on three-month moving averages, with survey counts rounded to the nearest 100 persons.

For additional information on the monthly release of labour force survey results for the Northwest Territories, visit the NWT Bureau of Statistics website at http://www.statsnwt.ca or call (867) 873-7147.

Next Release: October 10, 2014